

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously presented) A laundry basket according to claim 12, further comprising:
at least one handle provided near the upper end of the side wall and positioned opposite the curved wall section.
5. (Previously presented) A laundry basket according to claim 4, further comprising:
a handle grip formed on the handle from the secondary material.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously presented) A laundry basket according to claim 12, wherein the secondary material is thermoplastic elastomer.
8. (Currently amended) A laundry basket comprising:
a bottom panel having a perimeter;
a contiguous side wall extending generally upward from the perimeter of the bottom panel, the side wall terminating at an upper end;
a rim having a rim wall ~~formed~~ extending around and generally outwardly from the upper end of the side wall, said rim wall including an outwardly facing portion;
a basket interior defined above the bottom panel and bounded by the side wall;
a curved wall section of the side wall that is curved concavely inward toward the basket interior, the bottom panel and the contiguous side wall including the curved wall section being formed of a primary material;

a recess formed in the outwardly facing portion of the rim wall and positioned to coincide with the curved wall section;

at least one handle provided on the side wall near the upper end and positioned opposite the curved wall section; and

a cushion pad positioned in and substantially covering the recess such that it is substantially coextensive with the rim wall, the cushion pad oriented such that the cushion pad faces a user when the user carries the laundry basket the cushion pad being formed from a secondary material that is softer than the primary material of the curved wall portion.

9. (Original) A laundry basket according to claim 8, wherein the side wall has a pair of opposed elongate side sections and a pair of opposed shorter end sections, wherein the curved wall section is one of the pair of side sections, and wherein the at least one handle is provided on the other of the pair of side sections.

10. (Original) A laundry basket according to claim 9, further comprising:
a second inwardly curved wall section foamed on one of the pair of end sections.

11. (Original) A laundry basket according to claim 10, further comprising:
at least a second handle provided on the other of the pair of end sections.

12. (Currently amended) A laundry basket comprising:
a bottom panel having a perimeter;
a side wall extending generally upward from the perimeter of the bottom panel, the side wall and the bottom panel cooperating to define a basket interior;
an inverted arched rim formed adjacent an upper end of the sidewall, the arched rim including an outer facing side;
a curved wall section formed along contiguous portions of the side wall and the arched rim, the curved wall section curving concavely inward toward the basket interior;
the bottom panel, the side wall, and the arched rim formed of a primary material, the primary material having a first coefficient of friction; and

a cushion pad completely covering the outer facing side of the arched rim along at least a portion of the curved wall section such that said cushion pad faces a user when the user carries the laundry basket, the cushion pad formed of a secondary material different than the primary material, the secondary material arranged to present a friction enhancing surface having a second coefficient of friction greater than the first coefficient of friction.

13. (Previously presented) The laundry basket of claim 12, wherein a portion of the side wall disposed opposite the curved wall section includes a handle having a grip opening, and wherein the curved wall section is devoid of a handle having a grip opening.

14. (Previously presented) The laundry basket of claim 13, wherein the portion of the handle adjacent the grip opening is covered with the secondary material.

15. (Previously presented) The laundry basket of claim 12, wherein the secondary material comprises a thermoplastic elastomer having a Shore A or Shore D hardness that is less than a Shore A or Shore D hardness of the primary material.

16. (Previously presented) The laundry basket of claim 12, wherein the arched rim includes a rim wall having an enlarged lower edge.

17. (Previously presented) The laundry basket of claim 16, wherein the enlarged lower edge comprises an integral bead.

18. (Currently amended) A laundry basket comprising:
 a bottom panel having a perimeter;
 a side wall extending generally upward from the perimeter of the bottom panel, the side wall and the bottom panel cooperating to define a basket interior;
 an inverted arched rim formed adjacent an upper end of the sidewall, the arched rim including an outer facing side;
 the bottom panel, the side wall, and the arched rim formed of a primary material, the primary material having a first coefficient of friction;

a hip hugging region formed by cooperating curved sections of the arched rim and the side wall, the hip hugging region curving concavely inward toward the basket interior;
a recess formed in the arched rim at least along a portion of the hip hugging region;
a cushion pad disposed over the recess and completely covering the outer facing side of the arched rim along the hip hugging region such that said cushion pad faces a user when the user carries the laundry basket;

the cushion pad formed of a secondary material different than the primary material, the secondary material arranged to present a friction enhancing surface along the hip hugging region, the friction enhancing surface having a second coefficient of friction greater than the first coefficient of friction.

19. (Previously presented) The laundry basket of claim 18, wherein a portion of the side wall disposed opposite the hip hugging region includes a handle having a grip opening, and wherein the hip hugging region is devoid of a handle having a grip opening.

20. (Previously presented) The laundry basket of claim 19, wherein the portion of the handle adjacent the grip opening is covered with the secondary material.

21. (Previously presented) The laundry basket of claim 18, wherein the secondary material comprises a thermoplastic elastomer having a Shore A or Shore D hardness that is less than a Shore A or Shore D hardness of the primary material.

22. (Previously presented) The laundry basket of claim 18, wherein the arched rim includes a rim wall having an enlarged bead formed adjacent a lower edge of the rim wall.